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AND SPIRIT OF THE AGRICULTURAL JOURNALS OF THE DAY.

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Mr. JAMES SOMERVILLE, is now on a tour through Anne-Arundel, Prince George's, Charles, St. Mary's and Calvert counties, and is authorized to receive the names of new, and also the amounts due from old subscribers to the "AMERICAN FARMER." Our friends are respectfully requested to extend to him such facilities as they may have in their power to afford, in the prosecution of the duties of his agency.

OGRA AND ASPARAGUS.—In another place we have remarked, some may think too freely, on the neglect of the garden, committed by most American country gentlemen—and among other vegetables and fruits, wholesome and valuable, such as the tomato, grapes, &c., we mentioned *Ochra*, which we esteem to be one of the most valuable; one that should have ample space in every decent garden, being very easily cultivated, as much so as peas or cabbages, very prolific—lasting a long time, and affording the material for a nice dish of soup every day for months. We named Asparagus also, as high on the list of the neglected. From the culture of this many are deterred by the supposed labor and trouble in preparing the beds. In a late London Horticultural Magazine, mention is made of a new process called surface culture. A treatise explanatory of this new process has been published, and is thus reviewed in the journal above mentioned.

Treatise on an Improved and Cheap Method of Cultivating Asparagus. By Ninian Niven, Landscape-Gardener, late Curator of the Royal Dublin Society's Botanic Garden, Glasnevin, Author of the "Botanic Garden Companion." Pamph. 12 mo, pp 31. Dublin, 1839.

About nine years ago, Mr. Niven began to pay attention to the culture of asparagus, from being situated in a place where, previously to his management, the crop had always failed. He adopted as a principle the enriching of the surface soil and the encouragement of the surface-feeding roots, in opposition to the usual practice of deep trenching and deep manuring. We can easily conceive that the result of this would be earlier and better-flavored heads; but Mr. Niven also found that the produce of cultivation on the surface-feeding principle was even more bulky than that of watery or deep preparation feeding. Mr. Niven plants in rows 4 ft. apart, with the plants 6 in. from each other in the row. The surface of the soil to be planted with asparagus is enriched with half-rotten leaves and rotten hot-bed dung, to the depth of 3 in., to which is added, where it can be obtained, a stratum of sea-weed. Before planting, the ground is laid up in ridges 4 ft. apart, and the roots of the plants are "set down on the little ridge or saddle prepared for them, as a man sits upon horseback;" a person following with a barrow full of sand, which, with the spade, he "lays over the roots and crowns, about an inch thick, observing to tread successively both sides of each line as he proceeds, with one

foot, to firm the sand to the plants, so as to secure them from the action of the air, until the process of planting is concluded, when a second and final covering of about 4 in. of rich compost of dung and rotten leaves is to be put over the ridges or lines, which is to be firmly trodden to the line of plants, as before. A small portion of the original surface between the rows may then be thrown up with the spade, right and left, dressing neatly between every two lines as you proceed, and the process of planting, which is exceedingly simple, is finished." (p. 22.) The produce of two rows, treated in this manner, Mr. Niven has found "fully equal in quantity to any one bed with three rows on it, besides being much superior in quality."

The plants appear growing out of elevated ridges; and in May, when the short grass mowing begins, a portion of grass is shaken in between the rows so as to fill the hollow space quite up to the necks of the plants. This supplies nourishment and retains moisture, while the slight degree of fermentation which takes place, heats the soil and stimulates the roots. When the shoots come up, they are thinned, by cutting away the weakest, "so that by the end of the first season, not more than two, or at least three, shoots are left to grow to maturity on each plant. Proper attention to the thinning of asparagus, in the first instance, immediately after planting, during the first and second years, and afterwards also in cutting for use, is of essential importance towards the future welfare of the plant." Mr. Niven's object is to leave a supply of strong shoots regularly over the bed, in order that the buds formed at the base of these shoots may be strong and fit to throw up vigorous heads next year.

We may here observe that the practice of the market gardeners in the neighborhood of London is, to cut over every shoot, whether small or large, up to a certain day in June; after which the beds are left untouched till the time for winter dressing. This, it would appear, is found to be the most profitable mode for a market-gardener, because he sorts his heads into three sizes, and finds a demand for each; whereas the private gentleman's gardener can send no head to table that is not large and finely grown.

But to return to Mr. Niven's practice. In November, when the tops having become yellow are cut over, the crown of the ridge is reduced a little with the hand, and about 4 in. of sea or "rabbit" sand is laid along over the line of plants, while rotten dung, leaves, and sea sand are slightly stirred into the soil between the ridges. But it is needless to go farther into routine culture. Suffice it to say, that Mr. Niven has fully established the superior advantages of surface culture, which, had the subject been duly reflected on, might have been foreseen. The same principle is now being very generally applied to the culture of every description of useful plant, and more especially to the culture of fruit trees. In short, the subsoil is beginning to be considered as chiefly useful as a reservoir of water, and the surface soil as a store-house of food.

We are glad to find Mr. Niven disapproving of cutting the heads of asparagus a few inches below the surface; "for what useful purpose this is done," he says, "we are at a loss to conceive, inasmuch as the white or blanched part of the grass is so usually hard and stringy as to be scarcely fit for use; whereas, by allowing the heads to grow the proper length above the surface, say about 8 in. or so, they will not only still be compact, but the whole of the grass will be tender and eatable." (p. 27.)

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR, OR TRUSTEES OF THE ALMSHOUSES.—Their office and duties.—Humble and ill required as may be thought, the office and duties of those who have the management of our Alms-houses, the

Trust, if well understood and fulfilled, is one of great responsibility and usefulness; and most especially as it relates to their disposition of the Orphans who fall under their care, often times from the misfortunes, but, alas! too often from the vices of their parents.

We cannot well imagine any occasion of more forcible appeal to one's heart and understanding, than the case of an orphan whose destiny, under any circumstances, has been placed in your hands. This will at once be seen and felt by all who place a right estimate on the influence which education exercises over the character and happiness of every individual. We mean, of course, to be understood in the enlarged sense of the word education—not in that vulgar acception which confines its meaning and effect, merely to what is taught by a preceptor; but in that more extended and just conception which regards all surrounding circumstances, under and from which impressions are made upon the senses, as constituting one's education, and going to the formation of his character. In that light how important it becomes, that great circumspection be used in the disposition and management of children in our Poor Houses?

We are not familiar with the laws of the State, for the government of our Alms Houses, but it cannot but be obvious that they should be framed with great care by men of superior intelligence and true benevolence; and that those who are appointed to execute them, have a most sacred trust reposed in them, and ought to be men of superior judgment; of genuine benevolence, and of unspotted virtue.

It is, we believe, a part of their duty to bind out, both boys and girls, at a certain age, and what we took our pen to deprecate is the practice which we believe exists, of almost universally binding them to tradesmen and seamstresses in the towns. It is furthermore to be deprecated, that even the sanctuary of misfortune and poverty, is not always exempt from the vile taint of selfishness and peculation, which, of late years appears to have contaminated the very atmosphere, leading to the basest uses and prostitutions of public trust, from the highest to the lowest degree.

We happen to know, and could specify, a particular case where the President of a Board of Trustees appropriated to himself a negro boy who was to be bound out, in a manner characterized by deception and venality of the grossest and most disgraceful character. But our purpose is to suggest, that men should be sought who would execute this office of charity for charity's sake, without compensation, or at least, without perquisite of any kind, or liberty to appropriate to himself any sort of personal benefit or advantage which might offer in the administration of the trust. And here let us stop to say that we cannot too vehemently express our detestation at the thought that even these appointments to offices of benevolence and charity have not been permitted to escape with either party, the vile and all corrupting principle that "to the victors belong the spoils" in the civil administration of our own government, and that the most sacred public trusts as well as every dollar of the public money, is to be fought for as half-starved dogs fight for a

bone! The originators and advocates of such a venal and profligate doctrine, belong to what party they may, deserve to be more eminently marked for execration than more open traitors to public liberty; for the traitor who takes the field, avows his object, and puts his life upon the hazard—The patriot is forewarned and forearmed.—Not so against those who would use the public money, and abuse a delegated trust to corrupt the public morals, which inevitably paves the way to the overthrow of public liberty. What self-abasement must any man of honorable mind have undergone, who, possessing the appointing power, could bring himself first to ask—the politics of an Overseer of the poor!

To return to the disposition to be made of orphans at the Alms Houses—It has often occurred to us that it were much better to bind them to exemplary and successful practical farmers, to learn the business of practical agriculture, than to bind them, as they are generally done, to mechanics in our large cities, where they are far more exposed to moral and physical contamination and distemper than in the more wholesome air, employments and associations of the country, where

"His habit pure, with plain and temperate meals,
"Robust with labor, and by custom steel'd
"To every casualty of varied life;
"Serene he bears the peevish eastern blast,
"And uninfected breathes the mortal South."

Suppose for instance, such a farmer as Dr. Fenwick, or Mr. Carmichael, or Capt. Mezick, or Col. Edward Lloyd, or Gen. Emory, with hundreds of others that we could name, could be prevailed upon to take such boys, whether black or white, (to be differently treated of course,) and teach them thoroughly their own improved systems of husbandry. If a white boy who should so conduct himself as to leave them with their certificate of knowledge and good conduct, might he not have choice of situations as a manager, with the highest compensation? And would it not be better for the public as well as the individual? Are not the chances much in favor of his being a sober, industrious, productive and useful member of society—more than if he had to run the hazard of disease, and encountered the contaminating associations which in a large city it is almost impossible to escape, and when encountered, almost as difficult to withstand?

We feel that the argument in favor of our position, is susceptible of being strengthened by amplification. We have not time to subject it now, to more detailed exposition, but every thought bestowed upon it, serves to confirm our impression that the subject is one that deserves great legislative care, and that if the system of the management of the poor be well digested, and consigned to the supervision of enlarged and liberal men, the evils of orphanage may be greatly mitigated, and that so far as the state is concerned, these victims of misfortune and crime, may be made to take rank with the most respectable and useful of her citizens. We are not sure, in truth, that the duty of giving preference to apprenticeship to farmers, or others residing in the country, should not be made obligatory by law; for besides the forceful consideration of more healthful air and occupation, and less corrupting associations, the youth, whether male or female, is far less apt in a private family in the country, to have his feelings mortified, and his wholesome pride of character humbled and destroyed, by the jests of the thoughtless and the taunts of the unfeeling, than he would be, in a city—so that on the score of benevolence as well as of utility to the individual and the public, we should insist that all orphans bound out from our Poor Houses, should be placed in the country under proper restrictions, where suitable situations can be found; and we do not doubt that many gentlemen would be well recompensed for their trouble in carefully instructing such youthful apprentices, not only by the indulgence of a God-like virtue, but in the youthful services of his *protege*, who,

after the age of twelve or fourteen, might be of great assistance as a kind of sub-overseer. In fact, with the master's supervision, he might supply the place of Manager at an early age; and after all, it must be admitted that there is nothing like the eye of the master—if he rise early with a clear eye and a cool head.—Nothing, saith the proverb, so fattening to cattle as the dust of the master's feet!!

GARDENING IN EUROPE AND AMERICA.—It would seem to belong to the condition of our country, resulting probably more from our political institutions and circumstances, than from any peculiarity of climate, that we should forego the luxuries of the Garden, as they are enjoyed in Europe, where all that can add embellishment and variety to horticulture, is carried to the highest imaginable degree of luxurious and expensive refinement. Even the tropical fruits and flowers, to the growth whereof, Nature had seemed to have assigned impassable limits, by European opulence and art are made to flourish in respect of size and appearance, even though they may not possess the same flavor or *aromatise*, as in their natural climate.

In few things, perhaps, is the difference of condition, and of the products of their industry, between England and America, more remarkable than in the state of Horticulture in the two countries. In that land of inequality and regulated descent of property, where wealth is so redundant in the hands of a few, that imagination is taxed to know how to expend it; while the mass is so destitute, that their labor may be commanded for wages that will barely keep soul and body together, we need not wonder at their lavish expenditures on their buildings, their pleasure grounds, their parks, and their gardens.—So ample are the means for these purposes, and we may perhaps add, so devoid are the wealthy of the power of thought, or so averse to the exercise thereof, that they hire professional gentlemen for every thing. The nobleman has his regular Architect—his Landscape Gardener—his Surveyor—his Park keeper—his Farrier—his Huntsman. If a Garden is to be laid off, or a site for a building to be selected, and plantation of trees to be made about it, he sends for his artist, and pays him as we would a Johnson, or a Webster, or a Crittenden, or a Peyton, in a great case for a law opinion. In Loudon's Gardeners' Magazine, are some curious remarks on this subject, in which, we apprehend, the reader may find sufficient entertainment to compensate for the space we allow it:

"In general, when there is a disputed point between a landscape-gardener or garden architect and his employer, respecting the bill of the former, it is on account of the charges made for his plans, drawings, estimates, or reports. If a principle can be established on which these are to be charged, much of the difficulty in the case of an arbitration will be got over; and this principle, once made known and disseminated, will be a guide to landscape gardeners as to what they ought to charge, and to employers as to what they may expect to have to pay, when they employ this class of professional men. In noticing this subject in the *Suburban Gardener*, p. 479, we stated the principle to be the value which the professional man set on his time, charging at the same rate for the time occupied in making the plans, &c., as for that employed in going over the ground. The charge of landscape-gardeners varies from one guinea to five guineas a day, for the time employed on the estate, or consumed in going to the place to be laid out, or in returning from it home. To this charge per day is, of course, added all reasonable travelling expenses, whether by coach or postchaise; and also those of board and lodging while the landscape-gardener is employed on the grounds; unless, as is generally the case, he lives in the family. Where a landscape-gardener charges five guineas a day, and take with him either a draughtsman or valet, or both, he is entitled to travel in a postchaise; but in ordinary cases, and where the charge is under five guineas a day, the usual charge for travelling is by coach. If a landscape gardener travels in his own carriage, and with his own horses, then if his charge is

under five guineas a day, he charges for travelling expenses, as if he went by coach; but if he charges for his time at the rate of five guineas a day, or upwards, then his travelling charges are made as if he went by post.—In both cases, however, the time charged for must not be that actually taken when a man travels with his own horses, but the time which would be required to perform the journey by the mail, or by a postchaise. In cases where a landscape gardener is on a professional tour, or where he travels to a distant part of the country at the request of two or three parties intending to employ him, the travelling expenses are divided, in proportions depending on distance and other circumstances; the understanding being that no more shall be charged than the money out of pocket (or that would be out of pocket by coach or by post), and the value of time at the landscape-gardener's fixed rate of charging per day.

"The value of the landscape-gardener's time being determined by his charge per day, the next point is to determine what a professional day is. Now, as every professional man must be considered as in the rank of a gentleman, and while he is employed in the grounds, as having a place at the table of his employer, it is sufficiently evident that his day will consist of the time which elapses between breakfast and dinner. If the professional man chooses to walk out before breakfast, or to occupy himself in writing or drawing in his room in the evening, he may do so; but we by no means consider that he is bound to employ himself at these periods as a part of his day, though, if his heart is in the proposed improvements, he will most likely do so. The day, then, of a landscape-gardener we shall suppose to commence one hour after breakfast is finished, and continue till one hour before dinner is commenced; or, in other words, from eleven till five o'clock, say six hours, or between six and seven hours.

"While we fix on six or seven hours, as the day of a landscape-gardener, we consider it proper to state that it is customary, when the nature of the employment admits it, for the artist to employ himself in the evening in contriving his plans; but it is understood also that he is entitled to do this, if he chooses, in the day time. It very frequently happens that a landscape-gardener is called in simply for the purpose of staking out plantations, walks, or roads, and that no plan, writing, or drawing, is at all necessary; and, of course, there can be nothing for him to do in the evening, even if he were disposed to occupy that time for the benefit of his employer. This circumstance of itself shows the reasonableness of limiting the duties of the landscape-gardener to the time when he can be employed out of doors; for, otherwise, if he were merely called in to mark out improvements on the ground, as he could not in that case be employed in the evening, his employer might allege that he did not give a full day.

"Having determined the time required to constitute a landscape-gardener's day, the next point is to estimate the portion of this time, or, in other words, the number of days, which he employs, or is entitled to employ, on plans, drawings, reports, or estimates, made at home. It is customary to make certain plans or drawings for effect; that is, in order to give the proprietor an idea of the appearance which the improvement will have when completed; and certain other plans or drawings, called working drawings, to serve as guides while the work is going forward. Now, the contrivance of these drawings, and sometimes even the drawing of them, requires to be done by the landscape gardener himself; but there are certain other parts which may be copied, or even completed, when once properly begun, by a clerk, or assistant draughtsman; while reports, estimates, &c., after being drawn up and corrected by the professional man, may be copied by clerks. It appears, therefore, that two elements enter into the charge which a landscape-gardener may make for plans, estimates, &c.; viz., one for the time of the master, and another for that of his draughtsman or clerk. Whatever may be the charge of the master, the time for the assistant draughtsman and clerk is generally charged at the rate of a guinea a day, with the addition of all expenses, while he is from home, or employed out of the office. This, of course, supposes the clerk to be a competent draughtsman, and master of the routine of business of a landscape gardener's office. It sometimes happens, for example, that an assistant is sent down into the country to stake out a plan on the ground, or to make a map of some particular spot, and give a description of it to the landscape gardener; and in such cases the charges are made as we have just mentioned.

"The fundamental principle for charging for a landscape-gardener's plans, therefore, is, the value at which he estimates his time, controlled by the subordinate principle of the value of the time occupied on the plans by his assistant, or any draughtsman whom he may think fit to employ."

In our country, on the other hand, where even day-labor commands a large surplus beyond what is essential to sumptuous living, all classes are seized with the desire of accumulation, and once finding themselves on the way to independence, all ideas of embellishment and luxury, if not of decent and warrantable indulgence, are postponed for the grand purpose of hoarding up a fortune.—If the Farmer and the Planter can but augment annually the number of bushels of grain, and of hogsheds of tobacco, his ruling passion is gratified, and the comforts and felicities of a well managed Garden, and the delights of literature no less than the cultivation of music and painting, and all other fine arts are put off for the days to come, and we fear coming too fast—days of corruption and despotism—of inordinate wealth to the few, and of ignorance, and poverty, and servility and venality to the mass. Many farmers there are in Maryland and Virginia, with, we rejoice to add, some honorable and distinguished exceptions, whose clear income amounts to thousands, whose gardens should you perchance see them, you would think were planted for the use and sustenance of swine, rather than of gentlemen having any pretensions to taste and cultivation, either horticultural or mental. A few cabbages and potatoes, with here and there an old rose bush, or lilac, or holly-hock, lingering memorials of better taste in better times, make up the meagre list of the edible and the ornamental—no melons, no fruits, no grapes nor asparagus, nor ochra, nor tomatoes, nor strawberry, or raspberry, enters into their imagination, much less into their gardens or "daily food." Give them but an ample dish of "bacon and greens," and a fig for all else, except tobacco, and corn, and wheat, and whiskey, and politics! They must, we may dare affirm, have been a different race of men whose habits and example inspired these lines of the Poet:

"Or if the garden with its many cares
All well repaid, demand him, he attends
The welcome call, conscious how much the hand
Of lubbard labor needs his watchful eye,
Of loitering lazily, if not overseen,
Or misapplying his unskilful strength.
Proud of his well spread walls, he views his trees,
That meet, no barren interval between,
With pleasure more than e'en their fruits afford;
Which, save himself who trains them, none can feel.
These therefore are his own peculiar charge;
No meaner hand may discipline the shoots,
None but his steel approach them. What is weak,
Distemper'd, or has lost prolific pow'r
Impair'd by age, his unrelenting hand
Dooms to the knife: nor does he spare the soft
And succulent, that feeds its giant growth,
But barren, at the expense of neighbor's twigs
Less ostentatious, and yet studded thick
With hopeful gems. The rest, no portion left
That may disgrace his art, or disappoint
Large expectation, he disposes neat
At measure'd distance, that air and sun,
Admitted freely, may afford their aid,
And ventilate and warm the swelling buds.
Hence Summer has her riches, Autumn hence,
And hence e'en Winter fills his wither'd hand
With blushing fruits, and plenty not his own."

RHUBARB.

Every lover of good pastry must cultivate the common rhubarb plant, (*rheum raponticum*), or hold his peace if his wife does not set it before him, during the unproductive month of spring. Rhubarb is of very easy cultivation, and its excellence consists, not only in making delicious pies and tarts, but at a season of the year when other fresh vegetables cannot be obtained for that purpose. A

light, deep and sandy soil, is best adapted to its growth, and it may be propagated either from seed, or by dividing the roots and transplanting.

To cultivate from the seed, which is the best method, it should be planted in the spring, in hills eight or nine inches from each other, and kept free of weeds during the summer. The plants will be fit to transplant in autumn, or the following spring. The ground to which the plants are to be transplanted, should be well manured and trenched as deep as the sub-soil will admit. The roots should be carefully divided, and a bud left on the crown of each section. They should be set in rows three feet apart, and two feet between the plants. The after culture consists in weeding and occasionally stirring the ground as deeply as possible. This may be easily done with a three-tined, or common dung-fork. A dressing of well rotted manure should also be applied to the plants every autumn and spring.

The common method of raising Rhubarb is, to let the plants stand in the open air; but their growth may be much hastened, and their quantity and quality much improved by the following simple and cheap method. As early in the spring as is practicable, take a flour or other barrel, with one head out, and place it over the plant, and have the other head, at the top, or a part of it, in such a state that it can be removed at pleasure, for the purpose of admitting the air, and taking out the plants when ready for use. Place around the barrel a considerable quantity of horse, or other hot manure, in a state of fermentation. This method not only brings forward the plants much earlier, but blanches them, which makes them more delicate in appearance and delicious in flavor. Blanching not only improves the plants in these respects, but renders a less quantity of sugar necessary to make them palatable—a very important consideration with frugal and economical house-wives. The stalks are considered fit for use when the leaves are half grown; but when they are designed for market, it is best to let them remain till the leaf is full grown, as a much larger crop is obtained. The stalks are tied up in small bundles and sold by the pound, and as they are in market before other vegetables, always command a high price.

By removing a little of the earth around them, the stalks may be slipped off the crown without cutting or breaking them. They are then stripped of their external fibrous coverings, and the fleshy part which remains, cut into short pieces, seasoned, and made into pastry in the form of pies and tarts, in the manner of apples, gooseberries or other fruits.

ON ACCLIMATISING PLANTS IN BRITISH GARDENS.—

By N. M. T.—The accounts of the half-hardy plants that have been killed by the severity of last winter are so contradictory, that I question whether they have advanced our knowledge a single step, as to the grand question of acclimatizing. But they prove, however reluctant we may be to admit the fact, that all our past endeavours have availed us nothing. And now that we are compelled to make a fresh start, it is a fit opportunity to adopt some principle as a guide to our operations; as the worst principle, so adopted, cannot produce more unsatisfactory results than the numberless systems that have been so completely swept away. As past events have so fully verified the opinions I previously expressed, regarding the protection generally afforded to such plants, &c., I beg to offer a few farther remarks upon the subject. From the ample accounts alluded to, it appears that plants growing in poor soil, and the most exposed situations, have invariably suffered less than those growing in the most sheltered places; and that plants protected have been killed, while the exposed ones remained unhurt. These facts may be at variance with most of our preconceived notions, but are important, as they point to the rest of the evil: for, if the same cause produce different effects in plants of the same species, it is evident that the cause of the difference must exist in the plants themselves. Plants have stood best in exposed situations; but it does not follow that they prefer such situations, or that they would have suffered more had the cold been less: on the contrary, had the plant sheltered been in the same condition as the one exposed, it would undoubtedly have suffered less than the one exposed; and, although premature covering be the certain cause of death, still nothing can be more beneficial when not applied until wanted.

Professors agree about the method by which frost causes the death of plants; and, as I cannot enter scientifically upon the subject, I am compelled to adopt the max-

im, that "seeing is believing," and shall presume that death is caused by a mere mechanical operation. Every one knows that receptacles filled with matter must become lacerated, should the matter they contain be expanded beyond their powers of expansion or resistance. This is an incontrovertible law! and that plants are subject to it, and that many of them are so destroyed, we have abundant proof; nor is it sufficient reason to assign a different mode of attack in other cases, merely because the operation is carried on upon a scale too minute for our perception. This being assumed as fact, it follows that the hardness of any plant depends entirely upon the quantity of sap that it contains, and on the resistance that it is capable of offering at the time of the matter contained in it becoming frozen. Hence it follows, that a plant in a growing state, with its tissue fully distended, must be a certain victim, however hardy its nature; while one more tender, in a dormant state, or with its juices drained, will resist an unexpected degree of cold. This satisfactorily explains the otherwise inexplicable escapes that plants sometimes experience; and perfectly accounts for the little dependence that can be placed upon original climate. This principle of reducing the sap of plants is neither understood nor acknowledged by many gardeners, who, nevertheless, without knowing what they are doing, give their cabbages the full benefit of it. Many valuable varieties of the Brassica tribe cannot stand our winters, until they have been laid, as the operation of disrooting is termed; or until their roots have been cut, the supply of sap shortened, and the juices of the plant wasted by respiration, until it becomes flaccid, retaining enough to support life, but not enough, when expanded, to destroy it.

This is a very simple operation, and may be considered a very unmeaning example in the present case; but simple as the operation is, or whatever may be the reasons assigned for its performance, the result is most important; as, by it were a single stroke of the spade, a tender, or at least a very doubtful, plant has been rendered perfectly hardy. And why should a practice so satisfactory in its results be confined to a single tribe, when its influence may reasonably be supposed to extend to the whole vegetable creation? That its influence does extend to many others we have abundant proof, as growing plants in poor soil, keeping others extremely dry, and many other expedients that we resort to, to produce the same effect, are mere modifications of the same system.

All these expedients tend to the reduction of the sap; and, according as we succeed in effecting this, so are our endeavours crowned with success. The plant growing in poor soil is not actually disrooted; the scanty supply of sap at all times affords renders this operation unnecessary, and perhaps unbearable; it naturally produces scanty, elastic, and comparatively supple roots, while it offers no inducement to luxuriant growth, or premature vegetation; the bane of most turned out exotics. Disrooting plants placed in more favored circumstances would cause them to produce fibre, possessing all the requisite qualities, and fit to commence their growth at the proper season. In short, we should have plants capable of all the endurance of the former, and enjoying all the benefits of the latter situation. To what extent disrooting may be carried, at what time performed, and how far exotics are to be benefitted by it, can only be ascertained by experience; but it may be presumed that it ought always to be done in time to prevent the plants from growing in winter, and to reduce them to the lowest state, consistent with their safety, before the commencement of frost.

Upon this power of conforming themselves to the seasons must, in a great measure, depend the hardness of all kinds of plants. Many, even natives of our own hills, owe their safety entirely to the absence of sap at such a season; if forced unseasonably into leaf, and exposed, they would be found as susceptible of injury as the tenderest exotics. Escape, in such a condition, is, in fact, an impossibility, and would be a direct violation of infrangible laws, to which even the monarch of the wood (when caught in this condition) has been compelled to bow his head in submission.

How unreasonable, then, to suppose exotics capable of offering effectual resistance, placed in the very same circumstances! Absurd as this proposal may appear, as it can hardly be said to cause either extra trouble or expense, I hope that all of your readers who feel interested in the subject will give it a trial; the result of the experiment will soon be ascertained; and, if by it one degree of hardihood is obtained, it will amply repay the experi-

menter, whose only care must be to train his plants into a proper condition to bear cold, and not to apply any covering till it is wanted.

When speaking of covering, I cannot help remarking that many fine specimens in the superb American ground of the venerable Archdeacon Croft, at Saltwood, near Hythe, are covered with a sort of baskets. Their superiority consists in the top part being made to take off like the top of a hand-glass; the tops are thus removed in fine weather, to admit plenty of light and air. They are formed of the same materials as those figured, and were constructed under the directions of Mr. Acombs, gardener to the archdeacon. These are probably the very best sort of covering in present use; and as shelters from the wind, or protectors in spring, they are all that can be wished: but winter covers for plants can never be of service, unless they defend them from rain. This the variability of our climate renders imperatively necessary. The night of the 29th January, when rain fell in torrents, and in a few hours the temperature was reduced to 20°, is a striking example of this necessity. Plants in this case, fully exposed, might have the wet shaken from them, but those covered must have been encased in ice. Snow, too, lodges upon them, and melts in sunshine, while the interior is freezing; and, under such circumstances, the plants that we suppose to be enjoying protection are being watered overhead. Hence, if the movable tops of these baskets were covered with any cheap waterproof material, or formed of boards, tin, or zinc, they would be incomparably better suited to the purpose. Among the many proofs of the injurious tendency of covers, in their present state, I may mention a fine plant of the *Rhododendron Smithii*, in the collection above named, that was killed to the ground; while a layer, that could not be included in the basket, had not a leaf injured.

This case might also be adduced as an example in favor of the system I have advanced in this paper, if we suppose that the covering drew an undue share of sap into the part covered, leaving the layer a scanty supply, and consequently better able to resist the cold.

Folkstone, Feb. 1, 1839.

To the Editor of the Farmers' Cabinet.

THE HESSIAN FLY.

SIR,—While one class of writers profess to have found, by experience that the *early sown wheat* is the less liable to be affected by the Hessian fly, and others, by the same test, have discovered that the *late sown* is the most likely to escape its ravages, I find a third party advocating a *middle course*, as the only mode by which the destruction can be averted; arguing, very conclusively too, as do all others, that their system *only* is to be depended upon for security from the scourge, while the sagacious Lawrence observes, and I must be permitted to repeat the observation, "The probable reason for that multitude of caterpillars which are produced in a *blighting season* is, that such seasons are usually preceded by a mild winter; hence the direful ravages of locusts, Hessian flies, and various genera of insects in *warm climates*," but he adds, "Every observer will find, that the effects of blight depend entirely on the state of the atmosphere for their continuance or recession; and should they even have advanced to a considerable degree of maturity, warm showers of rain and a permanence of seasonable weather will prove an effectual remedy." And accordingly, we find at the present time the common observations in the papers, "the late seasonable weather has had the most decidedly beneficial effects on the wheat, so seriously injured by the Hessian fly." He then goes on to add, "the disease—originally caused by atmospheric affection—depends entirely on the subsequent state of the weather for its increase, decrease, or annihilation; nor are the seeds of the supposed parasite" (he is here speaking of the fungus, but I consider his reasoning as applicable to every description of blight) "of the smallest future consequence, since we invariably find, that, whether the vegetation of the succeeding year shall be blighted or not, depends simply on the course of the winds and the condition of the atmosphere; and that, whatever store of the seeds of the parasite may remain after the most blighting season, they are still perfectly harmless in warm and genial seasons; after an interval of a number of years of exemption from the malady, one shall suddenly occur, in which the diseases shall be epidemic, and its cause an atmosphere unfavorably changeable, so obvious, that if a blind man cannot see it, he shall be sure to feel it! In the mean time, what becomes of the seed of these parasite plants? Do they remain floating in the air, buri-

ed in the earth or beneath the waters, patiently holding themselves—perhaps for years—in readiness to obey the summons of boisterous East-North-East, to nestle in the vegetable body, now prepared for its reception, in order to suck up its life's blood?"

I copy the following from the Western Farmer, as strongly corroborative of the theory here adopted, and to show that the writer is one of the three systematizers above mentioned, who seem to be all wide of the mark. He says,

"As the Hessian fly is making great ravages in the wheat crops, both in Ohio and Kentucky, this season, we may as well communicate our own experience, as well as that of many old farmers who have cultivated wheat many years, that the Hessian fly, as it is called, almost invariably attacks *early sown* wheat in the latter part of autumn; and after-experience has also proved, that wheat sown *very late* is equally liable to destruction in the following spring, as is particularly now the case, according to the information we have recently received from the neighbouring country. It appears then advisable to adopt a middle course, sowing our wheat, if possible, between the 8th and last of October. The oldest farmers inform us that, having adopted this course, viz., *sowing after the first annual frost*, that the wheat may not be above ground until the autumnal fly has perished; with a good soil and good culture to insure vigorous growth (the *present wet season*, of course, forms an exception to the general rule of growth in this respect) they have never suffered any loss from this insect.* Warm and unseasonable weather late in the autumn, as was the case last year, will favor the work of destruction at that time, and the spring insect is more liable to do mischief when wheat is sown so late as to be much stunted in its growth by the severity of winter frosts, for in that case its growth is not sufficiently strong to outlive the attacks it may receive from this pest. We may shortly state, until more light is thrown on this subject, that the best precautions against diseases would be, manuring well on very poor land, making use of a heavy roller, after the *crysalis* or grub is formed in the autumn, or in the spring before it is hatched; ploughing up the stubble deep, and thus burying it; or burning the stubble—an operation which, if thoroughly done, must destroy the grub most effectually—pasturing in the spring on strong lands, and when the crop is rank in growth; and last, but not least, sowing the wheat, as before stated, *as far as the knowledge of the season will permit*, at a medium distance between the first and the last frosts of autumn."

Now, if the above article had been written to substantiate the reasoning contained in the extracts from the new Farmers' Calendar, I know not how it could have been done more effectually; I do not, however, mean to attach the least importance to the article on account of its own merits, for who, amongst farmers, would think of delaying his general wheat sowing until after the "first frosts of autumn," even if he were sure he would then have an opportunity, "between the first and second frosts" of so doing? the idea is absurd! And then comes the curious exception to the general rule, owing to "the present wet season," which might happen again for a dozen years to come, for aught we know.

His observation, that the oldest farmers who have adopted this practice have never lost a crop, would lead one to suspect that they had never a crop to lose, as was the case with the fortunate lawyer, who had never lost a cause, merely because he never had had a cause to lose! And then again, to advise the use of a heavy roller in the autumn, after the grub is formed—which on moist land would be dead ruin at that season of the year—to crush the "grub or crysalis," which, if this writer had ever seen, he would know to be impossible to effect by such means; ploughing up the stubble deep—I presume he means after harvest, when all the injury has been done—and burning the stubble, which, as the eggs are inserted into the stalk so near the crown of the root, would, in all probability, be ineffectual—but he ought to know that this burning the stubble is quite out of the question ninety-nine times out of a hundred, which is, I believe, about the number of chances to one that the wheat has been seeded with grasses. And then comes the last precaution, which is, in his estimation, "though last not least," namely, to sow, as far as the knowledge of the season will permit—to know *any thing* about which a man must be a conjurer—at a medium distance between the first and second frosts of autumn!

Now, it is a fact, that, in such seasons as the present,

the Hessian fly does almost invariably attack the *early sown* wheat in the latter part of autumn, because at that season it has become lavish and premature in its growth, stimulated to a highly improper degree by the fallowing, the pulverizing, the dunging, and often the liming, which it is universally the custom to give to the oat-earshes after harvest, to enable the land, exhausted by the production of a crop which feeds *precisely on the food which is natural to the support of the wheat*, to carry a second grain crop in succession, than which nothing could be more injuriously contrived. This stimulating process, joined to the heat of an Indian summer, draws up the crop so soft and tender, that, if the frost sets in before a covering of snow falls to protect it, it is certain to be affected by a blight, which soon shows itself in the shape of some disease or other, and most frequently in what is called the fly; the juices of the plant, being thus obstructed in their circulation, stagnate, and becomes corrupt; and then it is a law of nature for putridity to engender life; or, if you had rather, when these juices are become putrid, then the fly deposits its egg, knowing by instinct that the progeny will be supplied with the means of its existence—on the principle, "no fly will deposit its eggs on a healthy sheep, or, if it should, they will never come into existence." This is the reason why the *early sown* wheat is so liable to be affected; and at this season it is that the fly is supposed to deposit its *first or autumnal crop of eggs* the *very late sown* wheat is often affected in the same manner, but not by the same cause—its *tenderness* arising merely from its natural state of weakness, from too late sowing—while that which is sown in the middle part of the season might possibly sometimes escape, solely from the cause of the weather being more propitious during its state of germination, and its greater age communicating more strength of constitution to enable it to resist a degree of cold that might be sufficient to prostrate the latest sown crop. But all these crops, sown at such different seasons, are sure to suffer by the fly, or some other disease, if unseasonably warm weather—such as that which was experienced, first in the autumn and then in the early spring of the present season—is followed by many successive days of cold and piercing blast, with the wind from the north-north-east, and the thermometer nearly to the freezing point, all which must have been observed at the time, causing a foreboding of blight, in some form or other, in the minds of those whose business led them to notice the state of the atmosphere; and these circumstances, I conceive, are quite sufficient to account for the appearance of the fly, in the present remarkably changeable season, both in the late and early autumn-sown wheat, as also in crops grown from foreign seed, sown for the first time in this country.

It has been stated in the agricultural journals, as the general opinion of agriculturists, that no preventive of the ravages of the Hessian fly can ever be pointed out; this might be the fact, under very peculiar circumstances, especially in a country where the transitions from heat to cold are not only extremely frequent, but to a degree of intensity which must be exceedingly injurious, as well to animal as to vegetable life, but it is believed that very little would be heard about the disease, if a different course of management were adopted, and such a rotation of crops substituted, as that which is followed in the grain-growing districts of the continent of Europe, where, to grow two grain crops in succession would in many places subject a tenant to a forfeiture of his lease, if not to a prosecution for damages.

The most favorable soil and climate for the growth of wheat is that which is cool and rather heavy; it requires careful culture and a strong and rich seed-bed, but, in this climate especially, it ought never to be sown on a pulverized fallow, for although on some of the cold clays of parts of England, immense crops are obtained by those means, nothing can be more improper in this country than such treatment of the soil; the object here ought to be to render the soil as compact as possible, and to retard the growth of the crop in the autumn, to give it time to tiller and gain strength before the frosts of winter; all which can be accomplished, by adopting the new course of the grain-growing districts in Europe, which would be peculiarly well suited to this—it is as follows:

The dung of the winter-seeding establishment is occasionally removed, during the season, to a situation, generally to the field where it will be required, and where it can be turned up and heaped not more than three or four feet in thickness, to facilitate its fermentation, preparatory to its being spread as a top dressing very early in the

spring, on the young clovers, when it is soon grown in and produce a three-fold quantity of hay for the next winter's food: two crops of hay are taken, and then the lay is turned down by a deep and narrow furrow, the land being thrown into reaches or beds, in width proportioned to the wet or dry state of the soil; and upon this one ploughing the wheat is sown early in the season and harrowed in. There is still a sufficient quantity of manure contained in the soil to bring the wheat crop to full maturity; for the clover, not having perfected its seed, has not exhausted more than the grosser particles of the dung, which would have been detrimental to the wheat crop, rendering it too large, flashy and tender in its autumnal growth, and fitting it for the reception of the fly, and other diseases incident to a state of blight, to which it would be particularly liable, especially if it were to be attacked by frosts before it had been protected by a covering of snow; as also inducing a redundant growth of straw the next summer, which is equally obnoxious to the yield of grain.

Wheat, thus cultivated, will lie close to the ground during autumn and winter, and tiller and thicken, instead of exhausting itself in useless and premature growth, perhaps a foot in height; its leaves of dark green will curl on the ground, able to resist the frosts, and not liable to be injured by a depth of snow, never so great in depth, or of so long continuance; coming out from under it, small in appearance, but not lifted at the roots—as the high and forward crops are almost always found to be at this season—ready and willing to start with the first mild weather in the spring, but not gross and tender, so as to feel the effects of a change of climate, which would be found sufficient to prostrate thousands of acres of those crops, which have hitherto been the admiration of the whole country.

The straw of such crops will have strength sufficient to support the head, which will be much larger and longer than that raised from fallow, dung, and lime, which always go to produce large quantities of leafy straw, rather than grain.

Wheat crops, that are sown very early on dunged fallows, make too much progress before winter: not so when sown early on lay land that has been manured on the spring clover, after one ploughing, if that has been given carefully, with a deep and narrow furrow, and laid well over; the sowing on such land may take place very early without fear of the crop becoming what is called, in some places, *winter proud*, or being affected in the spring with the root-rot, by being lifted by the frosts. But how any one should expect to raise good and clean crops of wheat after oats, and fallowed, dunged and limed for, is assuredly the most astonishing thing in the world! that it is sometimes done, speaks volumes in favour of a country which, with such *crying treatment*, will still work such wonders.

VIR.

*Then it would appear that the present wet, or unfavorable season, has overthrown their whole hypothesis!

DIALOGUE BETWEEN A FATHER AND SON.

Supposed Conversation between a Provident and Improvident Farmer, and their respective crops, stocks, &c.

Frank.—Father which is the most profitable breed of sheep for the farmer? I should suppose the largest, as a sheep is a sheep you know, and a large one is of the more value than a small one.

Father.—A prudent man will advise with his land on that subject.

Frank.—But can his land advise with him?

Father.—Yes, and the lessons which a farmer is taught by his land, are not soon forgotten, as, according to the old adage, "*bought wit is best*." I sometimes fancy that my crops converse with me, when I visit them of an evening, and if I could do justice to these fancied dialogues which I seem to have, and could commit them to paper, they would, I think, make a pleasant addition to your book.

Frank.—O, do try, "*nothing is impossible to a willing mind*," you know.

Father.—Most opportunely, quoted the text—now for the sermon.

We will suppose then that a slovenly procrastinator is visiting his fields on a glorious evening as the present, in just such a fruitful season as we are now blessed with. He goes up to the field, No. 1, which is wheat, and begins—

Grabb.—Good evening; fine weather this; but I don't think you look quite so well as you did the last time I visited you.

Wheat.—I wonder how I should—do you not see how I am choked with weeds? how the thistles are goading me with their spikes, and the ragweeds are taking the food out of my mouth, while the bind weeds are dragging me down to the earth, and how that I am smothered with evils innumerable?

Grabb.—But I allowed you a fallow and plenty of manure: you ought at least to have been able to cope with the weeds.

Wheat.—You forgot that "the earth is the own mother to the weeds, while she is only mother-in-law to the crops that are planted in her bosom;" besides, you talk of a fallow—why this great thistle on my right, and which has one of his spikes fixed in my side, has just informed me that he is one of the progeny which was reared in this same fallow of yours—his parent being the identical thistle under which the farmer sat on horse-back, and escaped a drenching while his neighbors were wet to the skin! You seem to have forgotten that "*one year's seeding is seven year's weeding*."

Grabb.—Ah well! I'll get these weeds pulled.

Wheat.—As you said a month ago, and will say again, and never do it!

Frank.—Excellent! But you never fallow or dung for wheat.

Father.—Nor have I ever such fine thistles. I always dung for green crops, and insure two things at the same time—more food for cattle, and of course, larger dung-hills. My object is to retard the growth of the wheat, that it may be strong in the stalk, and I therefore do not encourage its lavish growth by manure and fallow. Now for No. 2.

2. Corn. **Grabb.**—Why you look very sickly; I thought you would do better, judging from the appearance you put on at first coming up—how's this?

Corn.—Ask yourself? You thought you were cheating me, when you sowed without manure—a favor you always promised me; I relied upon that promise and came up, with the expectation that I should find it when I needed it; but after sending my roots below in search for it, I find your promises are false—you complain of my sickly look? I can only say, If you had no more to feed upon than I have, you would not have shelled the three lower buttons on your waistcoat! Grabb tucked the shucks into the holes and walked on.

Frank.—I now find that crops can advise, and admonish too; but could not the farmer do something in the way of top dressing to remedy a part of the evil?

Father.—Yes but he had no manure.

3. Barley. **Grabb.**—Ah! you'll come to nothing.

Barley.—I thank you and return the compliment. But what did you expect when you sowed me after once ploughing, on a stiff and wet soil? "Nothing venture, nothing have." I only wish that you had to work so hard as I do for a living.—You would then feel for me.

4. Oats. **Grabb.**—Well, I think you might do a little better than you do, if you would try; why, I shall not get the value of the seed back—that's too bad!

Oats.—Now, that's thrice bad of you! You know that you have had six grain crops in succession from the land on which I am sown, with not a spadefull of manure of any kind for the last six years! Why, even the weeds have been starved out, and you have put in practice the lazy farmer's receipt for ridding his land of weeds—"making it so poor that they will not grow!" Now that's practical farming without theory.

Grabb.—But what shall I do for want of the straw, which I depended upon as fodder for my cattle during next winter.

Oats.—Is that all your dependence for the next winter? Why your cattle will be ready to eat you! and you will have to practice the other part of the recipe, "to prevent cattle from dying of starvation—kill them." But I give you warning; neither they nor you must expect any thing from me; if I can hold my own 'twill be as much as I shall do.

5. Clover. **Grabb.**—Why you look healthy and well, but how is it that you have made so little progress in height? There's Farmer Sykes' clover as high as my knees, and will be soon fit for the scythe! but I am unfortunate in every thing!

Clover.—That's a true word, although spoken in jest. Why you seem to forget that as soon as I had made a little progress in growth, you turned in all your starving cattle, horses, and sheep, which not only eat up the branches, but also the root?

Grabb.—Ah! that I was compelled to do to keep them

from starving—but you had all the benefit of their manure while they were feeding on you.

Clover.—You call that manure? why it was the greatest part, nothing but worms and bots—and the little good that remained was soon carried off by the grasshoppers and bugs, which were about as much in want of it as I! My fear is, that the hot weather, which seems now to be setting in, will scorch the land, so unprotected by foliage, and dry up the scanty crop which is left, before it is high enough for the scythe—and then what do you think your horses will say to you! If you had done what Farmer Sykes did, you would have deserved his success; you must remember, how, that instead of feeding off his young crop, he top dressed it with a compost of lime and earth and dung, which had been carefully prepared in winter and well pulverized; by which, not only his present crop is doubly benefitted, but it is also preparatory to an autumn sowing of wheat on the lay. Now put this and that together, and calculate the result. First, two tons of hay per acre, the first cutting, one ton per acre, the second, with a capital aftermath for his dairy, and if wheat is sown by the 29th of September, a yield of forty bushels per acre might be expected at next year's harvest; and this is not all—for after the wheat is carried, the land will be turned and the clover stubble, perfectly rotted, will form an excellent seed bed for buckwheat, with the expectation of a heavy crop. Now I will leave you to calculate the value of my second crop, (remember you have already had the first cutting, and a severe cutting it was,) and of course you do not expect much at the third; while seventeen bushels of wheat per acre, next harvest will be quite as much as you have any right to expect; and common justice will not allow you to sow buckwheat after.

Grabb.—Why you are one of Job's comforters.

Clover.—But I cannot see that you have any claim to the character of Job—for "In all this, Job sinned not" remember.

6. Potatoes. **Grabb.**—Well, I don't know how it is, but while others are digging new potatoes, it does not appear that I shall ever have any to dig! I think I may as well leave you to your fate, for you'll certainly never be worth the labor of cleaning.

Potatoes.—Now you cannot be ignorant of the fact, that for two months after the crops of others were up, you were only talking of planting yours, and all the while the weeds were growing, on what you called your fallow, until some of them were as high as your head, and full of seed; we were then tumbled in all together, and have ever since been struggling for the mastery; but you have now sealed our fate, and must take the consequences. 'Twas fortunate for you, was it not? that your father lived before you, for he would find it difficult to live after you.

7. The Cows in pasture. **Grabb.**—Well, you have more grass than you can eat, however you can't grumble—that's one comfort.

Cows.—Grass, do you call it?

Grabb.—Yes I do;—and what do you call it?

Cows.—Why, we were just saying that it would puzzle a Philadelphia lawyer to say what it was; but judging by the smell as well as the taste, it might be called garlic, without offending against the statute of truth.

Grabb.—Well you are all alike! Didnt I let you feed off the crop of clover, almost before it was out of the ground?

Cows.—That's a fact! Indeed we were at last obliged to dig for it, and you will feel the effects next winter, or we are no conjurers.

Grabb.—Ah I had need be a conjurer to know how to satisfy you all; but what have you done with the sheep!

Cows.—What, those large bodied, long woolled animals for which you gave in exchange your small breed, which, even they, could only just keep body and soul together, by picking the short herbage of the pasture? Oh! we have done nothing with them, but they have at last been able to do something for themselves, for finding it impossible to subsist on such commons, and that they were growing less every day, they sought for a hole in the fence, and by waiting until they were reduced so much in size as to be able to creep through, they at length passed into your wheat, with the intention of returning after they had filled themselves, but this they could not do then, and it is not probable that they have attempted it since, so you had better look for them, for ere this, they have cost you as much as they are worth, in the damage they have done to the wheat crop.

Grabb.—Well, 'tis no use to try to do any thing more, and so I'll go straight home—no, not straight, for if I do,

I shall get among the pokers, and they are grumblers by profession.

9. *Pigs.*—*Porkers*, did you call us? 'Twill be long before we have any pork about us, with our present mode of living—call us *grumblers*, for so we are, and with reason; we wonder you are not afraid to meet us after dark, for we are but the ghosts of things that have been. There is this consideration in it, however—our lives will be spared, for we shall never be worth the trouble of killing; indeed, that, in a little time, would be no "murder," as it would be like one of your neighbors, who killed his pigs to save their lives!

10. *Grabb*—Ah! well, here comes the *Horses*, they are the only generous animals on a farm; but where are ye all going in such a hurry?

Horses.—We have come at last to the resolution of no longer starving quietly, so we are going in a body to break over the fence into Farmer Clement's clover; we know where the weak place is, for we have heard you promise for the last three months to get it mended, and of course, it is not done yet. We do not intend to break into your own clover, as that would be punishing ourselves the next winter, for we calculate there will not be more food than enough for us all, if we eat stock and block of the whole farm.

By this time the farmer had reached his house, and going in, said to himself, there is no comfort out of doors, let us see if we can get a little within—wife, bring the rum bottle and a pipe. Talk of the independence of a farmer's life, indeed! 'tis all a hum—here am I, with the best intention in the world—

Wife.—Not the value of a cent! all your intentions never grow into action! Now just sit down, and I'll sum up the thousand and one promises that you have made me to do the necessary repairs about the house—and to begin with the roof of the dairy, which was stripped off by that storm last autumn, and there it remains in the same state to this day—

Grabb.—Take care, let me get to bed, out of the way!

Frank.—Oh! thank you; but now to make a perfect picture, we should visit his fields with a good farmer and husbandman.

Father.—That indeed would be much more agreeable, and some day we may do so; but it is now late—let us go to bed, as *Grabb* said, but not for the same reason, blessed be God!

Far. Cab.

Sheep.—A correspondent has furnished us with the following receipt, which he says he knows, from repeated experiments, to be "good for making strong wool and healthy sheep." It is easy, cheap, and well worthy of trial.

"When the sheep is shorn, dip a cloth in soft soap and rub the sheep all over—then dip the cloth in warm water and give the sheep a complete lather, and let it go."—*Ten. Farmer*.

MURRAIN AMONG THE CATTLE.

At the west, many instances have occurred this season of a fatal disease among their stock, which baffles as yet all remedy. The cattle are taken, say at night; their eyes seem fixed; they lose all energy; and are dead by the next day. We have not heard of any scientific examinations; but the farmers who have opened the bodies of their animals, report that they perceive no local inflammation, and are wholly unable to detect the secret of the calamity. Such cases as these, in connexion with an interesting case reported to the *New England Farmer*, from Andover, in a recent paper, of the unaccountable death of three calves, show most emphatically the importance of the veterinary art. We constantly lament that the term *cattle doctor* should be considered degrading, though we cannot feel surprised at it, when we know the miserable and contemptible quackery which is continually practiced by the stupid and ignorant jackasses who undertake to practice in this line. We want a veterinary school, in which the science of comparative anatomy and the diseases of the brute creation shall be as thoroughly studied as those relating to the human frame and system. It would open a noble field of science. It might be made a highly lucrative profession in any populous part of the country. Real science and skill would place the profession on a level with other liberal professions, and the actual gain to humanity would be immense. A merciful man is merciful to his beast; and whoever considers man's dependence upon the brute creation, and the obligations he is under to them for service, and labor, and

food, on the principles of the plainest justice and duty, to say nothing of his own interest, will feel bound to do whatever he can for their health, comfort, and welfare.

New England Farmer.

H. C.

From the Third Report on the Agriculture of Massachusetts.

EXPERIMENTS IN FORWARDING SEEDS.

The subjoined experiment rests upon unquestionable authority. No one could be more relied upon for exactness and care than the eminent man who made it. It is a most striking result. What is applicable to one kind of seeds is doubtless applicable, in a degree, to all seeds; and nothing can more emphatically illustrate the importance of care in the selection of seeds.

H. C.

Experiment, showing the importance of selecting the first ripe seeds, communicated to the Trustees of the Agricultural Society, by JAMES FREEMAN, D. D., Sept. 1, 1805.

To ascertain whether the ripening of seeds can be forwarded, by sowing those which are the earliest ripe, I have made experiments, all of which have been successful, on several different sorts. It will be sufficient to mention one only.

In the year 1801, I planted the case-knife bean. The pods first formed, which are commonly those nearest the root, were reserved; and when about the quantity of a peck was fully ripe, they were gathered on the same day. The largest and fairest of seeds were planted the next year, and the first formed pods reserved as before. The same method has been pursued without any variation till the present year; by means of which whilst the bean has not degenerated in its quality, the ripening of the seeds has been forwarded twenty-six days, as will appear from the following table.

	Planted.	Gathered.	No. days.
1801,	May 20,	Sept. 9,	112
1802,	" 11,	Aug. 21,	102
1803,	" 10,	" 8,	90
1804,	" 8,	" 4,	88
1805,	" 6,	July 31,	96

The first column denotes the time of planting the seeds; the second, that of gathering the seeds which were first ripe; and the third, the number of days which elapsed between the time of planting and the time of gathering.

As in the second and following years, I anticipated the time of planting the seeds, (by which means fourteen days have been gained, in addition to the twenty six noted above,) to determine what effect later planting would produce, by giving the seeds more advantage from the heat of summer, in the years 1804 and 1805, I put into the ground a quantity of seed, about a week later than that which was first planted. The event which took place is exhibited in the following table.

	Planted.	Gathered.	No. days.
1804,	May 14,	August 8,	85
1805,	" 13,	" 6,	85

As very little time has been gained in the present and in the preceding year, I suppose I have now reached, or nearly reached, the *no plus ultra*. I delay not, therefore, to communicate to the Trustees of the Agricultural Society, the result of an experiment which confirms the important truth taught in various parts of their useful publications, that, to ensure an early and good crop, the seeds reserved for future sowing should be those which are the first ripe, and which are, in other respects the most perfect.

Extracts from a letter of Joseph Cooper, of New Jersey, in 1799.

"This kind of corn I have continued planting ever since, selecting that designed for seed in the manner I would wish others to try, viz: When the first ears are ripe enough for seed, gather a sufficient quantity for early corn, or replanting; and at the time you would wish your corn to be ripe generally, gather a sufficient quantity for planting the next year, having particular care to take it from stalks that are large at the bottom, of a regular taper, not over tall, the ears set low, and containing the greatest number of good sizeable ears of the best quality; let it dry speedily, and from the corn gathered as last described, plant your main crop, and if any hills should be missing, plant from that first gathered, which will cause the crop to ripen more regularly than is common, which is a great benefit. The above mentioned method I have practised many years, and am satisfied it has increased the quantity and improved the quality of my crops beyond what any person would imagine, who has not tried the experiment.

"For many years I have renewed the whole seed of my winter grain from a single plant which I have observed to be more productive and of better quality than the rest, which I am satisfied has been of great use, and I am fully of opinion that all kinds of garden vegetables may be improved by the foregoing methods."

SOILS.—Every farmer should have some general knowledge of soils, and be acquainted with the nature of plants so as to adopt those he cultivates to the soil of his farm. This is an important branch of agricultural knowledge; every plant will flourish best in that which is congenial with its nature; and if farmers were acquainted with the art of adopting plants to soils, much manure might be saved; some soils require little or no manure to grow some kinds of plants; whereas, to grow other kinds of plants upon the same soil, requires much manure. The best *Index* to the nature of soils are the plants that grow upon it; true the chemist has it in his power to determine the nature of soils without this *natural index*, yet every farmer, who knows the timber, underbrush, and plants a soil spontaneously produces, decides at once upon its value for cultivation.

The principal soils are *silica*, sand or earth of flints; *lime*, or calcareous earth; *alumina*, or clay; *magnesia*, a mineral substance, with these are blended vegetable and animal matters in a decomposing or decomposed state, and saline, acid, or alkaline combination.

The nature of *silica*, or sand is dry and hot—*alumina*, or clay, cold and wet—a proper mixture of the two improves both—all experience shows that manuring sandy lands with clay, or clay lands with sand, is best for grain or pulse. But it is not the best natural soil that the farmer ought to consider, but the depth of it, and what lies immediately under it. The farmer should never lose sight of these facts. For if the richest soil is only from four to six inches deep, and lies on a cold, wet clay or stone, it will not be as fruitful as a poorer soil, that is deeper or lies upon a better stratum. It is now generally agreed that gravel, if not too compact, is the best substratum to make land prolific.

We shall now attempt a plain description of the different kinds of soils by noticing their quality. We shall begin with the best kinds of loams and natural earths, these are either of a light brown or hazel color; hence sometimes called '*hazel loams*.' They cut smooth and tolerable easy without adhering much either to the spade or to the ploughshare; are light, friable (crumbling) and fall into small clods without cracking in dry weather, or turning into tough mortar when very wet.

The next best are dark grey, or sometimes called '*rust-mould*.' But the worst of all natural soils are the light and dark colored. These clays may all be known by the sight. There is however, another, and perhaps as equally sure a test of good clays as that by sight—*smelling and feeling*. The best kinds of clay emit a pleasant scent on being dug or ploughed up, especially after rain; and being a just proportion of sand and clay intimately blended or mixed, will not stick much to the fingers on handling. We would however, remark, that the best soils in the world may be impoverished and completely worn out, by an injudicious succession of crops, and especially if the ploughings are not frequently repeated before the seed is sown.

As said before, plants are a good *index* to soils, for we find, if we examine tracts of land not cultivated, we may also find that time has adopted different kinds of plants to most of the distinguishable varieties of soils; and though some belonging to one may from some cause or other, be found on lands of a different quality, they seldom thrive, or perfect their seed so as to become general. The great care of the farmer ought therefore, to be, by proper mixtures, to reduce his land to that state and temperament, in which the extremes of hot and cold, wet and dry, are best corrected by each other; to give them every possible advantage flowing from the benign influences of sun and air; and to adopt such kinds of plants as they afford in this state, the greatest nourishment to; and to renew their fertility by a judicious allowance of the most proper manures. Where these things are done, there are few spots so unfriendly to cultivation as not to repay his expenses and labor with a plentiful increase. But without these, the best of land will in time become a barren waste, or produce little but weeds.—*Practical Farmer*.

†The Foreign news, it will be seen, has slightly depressed the grain and flour markets.

MANAGEMENT OF PIGS.

Messrs. Gaylord and Tucker.—The management of fine bred pigs is eliciting more attention at this day throughout this country and England, than at any former period. All the essays I have noticed on the subject have passed very indefinitely over what I conceive to be the most difficult period of the animal's existence, and one through which he seldom or never carries all his good points—which is that of leaving the sow.

The cause appears to me to be this: sow's milk is much more rich and nutritious than cows', consequently little action or concoction of the stomach previous to being carried into circulation is required; for indeed swine being carnivorous by nature, possess at all times very weak digestive powers; the pig being taken from the sow or weaned by her, large quantities of cows' milk is almost invariably given as a substitute, perhaps three times per day. The large quantity nearly paralyzes the little digestive powers the pig previously possessed; consequently his belly becomes distended far beyond its wonted size, assuming a disgusting blowdown or bellows-like appearance; he grows poor, his shoulders contract, his rump becomes peaked, his back settles down back of his shoulder blades, and then rounds up something like a hedge hog's, and to finish the picture, his hair is no longer brilliant and glossy, but dry, crumbling and dead, and often turning the other way; not a vestige of that clean cylindrical form, which never fails to elicit admiration, where beauty has any attraction, remains, nor does he ever effectually recover. Blood and pedigree are no guards against this. I would hazard a few suggestions as a remedy, not that I conceive them to be unexceptionable, but that they may be the means of drawing forth some that are, from Messrs. Lossing, Bement or Allen, or any other talented gentlemen engaged in the cultivation of "the noble animal."

I would have the pig well accustomed to the trough before weaning, in a place shut off from the interference of his mother; I would feed him four or five times per day with boiled rice, and boiled potatoes mashed, alternately adding a little milk from a new milch cow, all to be given in very small quantities, with trough kept clean; small quantities of beeves' liver, have a fine effect in yielding nourishment profusely, is easy of digestion, without distending the belly unusually; sheep's pluck are good, but should be boiled.

No pig should be taken from its mother while she gives any milk at all; but in cases where it is unavoidable, it should be done by degrees, the pig left to suck perhaps once a day for some days with the above mentioned feeding.

Much blame has been attributed to the breed or blood, where the management has alone been at fault; I have witnessed so many disastrous effects from taking pigs abruptly from the sow and sending them on a long fatiguing voyage, that I have resolved that no pig shall go from me until it has passed the ordeal of weaning. No valuable pigs should be sent any distance without some interested person to attend them, who has had some experience in their management.

There is another source which has often proved fatal to whole litters of pigs, which is that of interfering with the sows at the time of their littering; the sow should have her litter at the place of her own choosing; it is the only place at which she will be at home; it is idle to suppose that dictation or interference of any kind can be of service to her; she is governed by an instinct infinitely surpassing human calculation on this point. I never interfere further than to prevent all interference, and scarcely ever lost a pig.—*Alb. Cult.* Z. STANDISH.

VERY LATE FROM EUROPE.

NEW YORK, AUGUST 18.—By the *President* here, and the *Acadia* at Boston, via Halifax, there is a host of important news, so important even as to threaten a rupture between France and England on the Eastern question. The four great Powers, it appears, to the exclusion of France, have taken the side of the Porte, while France sides with MEHMET ALI, and a secret treaty is said to have been agreed upon, of which France was kept ignorant. The Parisian journals are all in a blaze. They breathe little but war. The French Government have also taken steps to add 100,000 men to the army. The British Ministry deny that any steps have been taken of which France was not informed, and justify action without France by the obstinate adhesion of France to MEHMET ALI. It follows from this, I suppose, that the four Powers will fan the Syrian insurrection, which has become more formidable. If MEHMET ALI does not assent to the offers of the Porte, sanctioned by England, Austria, Russia,

and Prussia, they are to compel him, which will lead to war with him, if not with France. War with France, though France is highly embittered, is not to be seriously apprehended. France has Algiers to take care of, and making the East the seat of war, with the British fleet in the Mediterranean, would hardly add to her glory.

Affairs in Spain are again assuming a perturbed state. There has been a serious riot in Barcelonate, and disturbances in Madrid, created by the Queen's sanction to the law of the municipalities. By the last dates, order, however, was restored.

I suppose, however, that the trading interests of the country will look rather to the commercial than the political news from Europe, which last is so well spread out in the journals of the day. Flour has gone down here, on the prospect of a more favorable crop in England than the last accounts indicated. It will not command \$5 25 to \$5 37 per barrel to-day, for which sales were day before yesterday freely made. Orders for a purchase here have been recalled by this arrival. The news has no effect upon cotton. Stocks have declined to day, without any visible reason for the decline. The demand for American securities on Europe has been moderate. Some Kentucky and Tennessee bonds have been forced to a sale at about 81, 84 being demanded.

The *New York Express* of Thursday, 2, P. M. says—Since the arrival of the *President* from Liverpool, Bread Stuffs, with one exception, have declined.—There appears to be less confidence in the shipment of Flour, and one lot that was bought for export, has been re-sold at 124 cents less. Rye has gone up suddenly, from 60 to 67 cents, and this rise has been owing to the small stock at market and the demand for distilling.

Liverpool Cotton Market, Saturday, Aug. 1.—Our market continues very steady. The business to-day amounts to 4000 bales, all U. S. except 200 Brazil 84a94d; 50 Egyptian 104; and 100 Surat 4a4j: 400 on speculation and for export.—Prices very firm.

Aug. 3.—There has been a fair demand for Cotton to day. The sales are 4500 bags, including 500 on speculations. Market steady.

TOBACCO.—Speaking of the last news from England, the *Richmond Whig* says: "The tendency of the news is to depress the grain market, and act favorably, if at all, upon the tobacco—if favorable, the growers of this article in our state, have just cause to be thankful, for it has borne a price with us this season, unparalleled, taking into consideration the pressure of the times. From 3 to 4 millions of dollars has *Richmond* alone paid to the planters this year for Tobacco, accruing from the highest prices, and but for the scarcity of the article in every government except our own, it must have been sacrificed at the most ruinous rates, when we remember the unprecedented scarcity of money which has existed."

BALTIMORE MARKET.

Sugars.—At auction on Wednesday, 400 hhds. Porto Rico were sold at \$6.80 a \$8.25. Some sales of Porto Rico have been made by private contract at the same rates. We quote *New Orleans* at \$6 a \$8. A sale of 40 boxes fair white Havana at \$10.50.

Tobacco.—For Maryland Tobacco there has been an active demand throughout the week, and at prices fully sustaining last week's rates, which we continue to quote, viz. inferior and common \$3.50 a \$4.50. Middling to good \$5 a \$6; good \$6.50 a \$8, and fine \$8 a \$13. In Ohio Tobacco the demand has been less active this week than last, and the sales not so large. Prices, however, have undergone no change—we continue to quote inferior and common at \$4 a \$4.50; Middling \$5; Good \$5.50 a \$6.50; fine red \$7 a \$8; ditto Wrappery \$8 a \$12; and fine yellow at \$7.50 a \$10. The inspections of the week comprise 900 hhds. Maryland; 173 hhds. Ohio; 11 hhds. Virginia and 4 hhds. Kentucky—Total 1088 hhds.

Wool.—We note a sale of a lot of common unwashed at 30a32 cents, and of another of a mixed lot of washed of 4 to full blood, at 40 cents, cash.

Cattle.—There was a unusually large number of Beef Cattle offered on Monday, amounting in all to about 850 head. About 250 head were taken by the city butchers at \$5.50 to \$6.50 per 100 lbs. for inferior to prime quality, and 400 head by speculators for the Northern markets at the same prices. Live Hogs are scarce and have advanced. We now quote at \$5.87 to \$6.25 per 100 lbs.

Cotton.—A sale of good Georgia upland at 114 cents, and a parcel of inferior at 9 cents.

Molasses.—At auction on Wednesday 156 hhds. and 13 tierces Porto Rico were sold at 28 a 314. Limited sales of *New Orleans* at 27 a 30 cents.

Flour.—The market for Howard st. Flour continues very dull, and the business doing is very limited in extent. Some holders submitted to a reduction in price on the 24th, and sales of several hundred barrels were made from stores at \$5. 124. We quote the receipt price at \$5a5 124.

Grain.—We note sales of old Penn. Wheats at 110 and 111 cents. A parcel of 1000 bushels new Penn'a. the second of the new crop which has reached the market from that quarter, was sold on Monday at 112c. We quote fair to prime new Md. and Va. reds to-day at 100a106a107 cents. Extra fine might command 2 or 3 cents more. A sale of Maryland

white, suitable for family flour, was made at 116c. White Corn 49a50c. and yellow 52c. Md. Oats at 26c.—*Amer.*

At Philadelphia, August 21.—Cotton.—A fair demand has existed for this article, and sales made of 6 or 700 bales, principally to manufacturers; 280 bales fair Tennessee at 84 cents.

Flour and Meal.—In the early part of this week considerable Flour was sold at \$5 50, and prices were firm; within a day or two the sales have been moderate, but without any reduction in price; it is now offered freely at the same rate, but purchasers are looking for some decline; the receipts and stocks continue light; sales of Rye Flour at \$3 per bbl; Brandywine Corn Meal in hhds. at \$14 50; hbls. short of \$3.

Grain.—Wheat has been in demand for export; 5 ships are now loading for Liverpool, which will take about 50,000 bushels; most of it, however, has been bought. Sales of 500 bushels light Delaware Wheat at \$1 10 per bushel; in the early part of the week sales were made of prime old Pennsylvania at \$1 18 a \$1 20; to day \$1 16 a \$1 18 per bushel. Rye is wanted at 65 cents; 3000 bushels new Oats at 25 cents; 12,000 bushels yellow Corn, afloat, at 54 a 55 cents for export and distilling; 5000 bushels white do. at 53 cents.

Provisions.—Bacon has been in demand, and sales made this week of near 200 casks at full prices; hams are 11 cents; sides 8; shoulders 7. Lard 114 cents; 100 hbls. Western mess Pork at \$154; 100 do at \$16; prime \$134 per bbl. Stock of Bacon in first hands light.

Tobacco.—Tobacco has been quite active for some days, and sales made within the week of 500 or 600 hhds. To-day 100 hhds. were taken, principally by the trade, at 51 a 8 c.; and 120 hhds. part to go out of the market, at 6 a 94 for very prime. The stock is much reduced, and prices a shade better. Manufactured goes off freely. Cleared this week, 100 hhds. Inspected this year, 4,621 hhds.

Wool.—The receipts are fair, and sales made to manufacturers to some extent at, for prime Saxony, 40a 45 cents; American full blood 37 a 40; 4 blood 33 a 37; common 25 a 28 cts per lb.

Cattle.—The supply of live stock dull, and prices declining; arrived 806 head fat cattle, about three fourths sold at \$6 a \$7; Cows and Calves, 150 offered, mostly taken at \$18 a \$36; Hogs, 470 dull at \$54; Sheep, the supply very large, and numerous returned; sales at \$1 50 a \$3 per head.

Richmond, August 21.—Flour.—Stock of Country very light. Small sales of old at \$54, some ask \$54; new held at \$54—no recent sales of City Mills. Wheat, \$1.05 for Red, \$1.10 for White. Corn 45a50 cts. Oats 25a28 cts. Tobacco.—Though the advices per steamer *President* are decidedly favorable, yet we observe no change in prices.

Augusta, Aug. 17.—Our Cotton market since the receipt of Liverpool accounts to 24th ult., per steam ship *Great Western*, received here on Friday evening, has been very quiet. No cotton has changed hands so as to form any definite opinion. The general impression amongst buyers and holders is, there will be no alteration in price for the present, or until we get later news, shortly expected by the steam ship *President*, which sailed from Liverpool on the 1st instant.

Lynchburg August, 20.—Extreme prices of passed tobacco, \$5.50 to 16, Inferior to Common \$5.50 to \$6.50, Common to Good 6.50 to 7.50 Good to Fine 7.50 to 9 Good to fine manufacturing 8 to 12, Extra quality do 12 to 16, Lugs according to quality 3 to 5. Flour by wholesale, brisk, \$4.25 to 4.50, Wheat can be sold at, 75 to 80, Corn (per barrel) 2.50 to 2.75.

Mobile, Aug. 8.—Sales of 500 bales Cotton at 61a9c; flour \$8a8 50; Corn 95a100c. for prime white, Oats 55a60c.

Charleston, Aug. 22.—Sales of 1656 bags for the week at 64a10c; Rice 3a3.44; N. Car. corn 55a60c; flour, 200 bbls. sold at from \$54a61 per bbl; Balt. Howard st. 64a67 5.

New York, Aug. 22.—Flour very dull, Genesee 5 12; Ohio \$5; very little done in grain; recent sales of Cotton show an advance of 1c per lb; sales of Upland and Florida at 84a104. Molasses firm, P. Rico 31c; N. Orl. 30c; North Co. Turpentine taken at \$2.25 cash; spirits do 24c; Mo. pig Lead ready sale at 43-16a44c. cash, and 4 58a59c. 6 mos; bar lead 6; no change in Provisions; good demand for N. Orl. and Porto Rico Sugars; Tobacco quiet. Stock of cotton under 10,000 ba.

New Orleans, Aug. 15.—The stock of Cotton in first hands being exceedingly light, our buyers can only continue their purchases on a very limited scale, not over 400 bales having changed hands since Wednesday. A small lot was sold at 124c. from the plantation of Mr. M. Courtney, staple strong and long and color good. The fair prices paid of late, and the prospect of a large crop, induces our planters to send on their last year's remnants. The demand for Bagging and Rope is immense, and we fear our planting friends may be disappointed in not being able to get their produce to market as early as desirable for the high prices quoted for the fine new bales sold this week. Liverpool, classifi.: ordinary 61a74, mid. 7 3-4a81, fair 9a101.—N. Ala. and Ten. trash 54a6, round average lists 7a8. Sugar, fair demand at 44a6c; a choice lot 7; very little left on plantations. Molasses 18a19c. Flour has advanced a shade; large sales at 6.50a6.75; small lots generally have been sold at \$7; Lard, no change, 11a124; Pork, clear \$20, mess 19a19 50; prime 16; Bacon, sides 114c, shoulders 8a84c. Tobacco, sales of 180 hhds. at from 31a 84 according to quality; for first 7 3-4a9, second 6a7, X 21a5, B. eye 2a24; Freight not quite so dull this week.

BALTIMORE MARKET.

ASHES—Slacked, 10	SUGARS—
COFFEE—Ha. lb. 9 1/2 a 11 1/2	Hav. wh. 100 lb. 10 a 12 00
Rio 9 1/2 a 12 1/2	do brown 7 00 a 8 00
COTTON—N. Car. lb. 8 1/2	N. Orleans 5 00 a 7 00
Virgin, good, lb. —	LIME—Burnt, 35 a 40
Upland, 8 a 11	PROVISIONS—
Alabama 00 a 00	Beef, Balt. mess, 15 00
Louisiana, pri. 9 a 11 1/2	Pork, do do 16 75
Tennessee 8 a 9	do prime 14 50
FEATHERS—	Bacon, country as. lb. 8 a 8 1/2
Am. geese, lb. 40 a 50	Hams, Balt. cured 11 1/2
FISH—	Middl'gs, do do 9 1/2
Shad, No. 1, bl. 7 75	Lard, West. & Balt. 11 1/2
Herrings 2 67	Butter, in kegs, No. 2, 13 1/2
BEANS, white 1 25 a 37	Cheese, in casks, lb. 9 a 12 1/2
Peas, black eye 1 50 a —	RICE—pr 100 lb. 3 75 a 4 00
Corn meal, kl. d. bbl. 3 00	SALT—Liv. gr. bush. 35
do. hhd. —	SEEDS—Clover do. 9 1/2 a 10 50
Chopped Rye 100 lb. 1 60	Timothy do. 0 00 a 2 50
Ship stuff, bush. 36 a 00	TEAS—Hyson, lb. 56 a 1 00
Shorts, 13 a 14	Y. Hyson 37 a 74
NAVAL STORES—	Gunpowder 60 a 1 00
Pitch, bbl 2 00	Imperial 55 a 60
Tar, 4 50 a 75	WAGON FREIGHTS—
PLASTER PARIS—	To Pittsburgh 100 lb. 1 00
Cargo, ton, 3 31	To Wheeling, 1 25
Ground, bbl. 1 37 a 50	

SCOTCH POTATO OATS.

The subscriber offers for sale 600 bushels of the above valuable Oats; the original stock was imported in 1839 by Messrs R. Sinclair, Jr. & Co. of Baltimore, and weighed 44 lbs. to the bushel—the produce of the imported seed acclimated by two successive years cultivation, and very little inferior to it in weight, is offered at 75 cents per bushel, deliverable in Baltimore, by the subscriber.

au 26 JOHN MERCER, Cedar Park, West River, Md.

A SPLENDID FULL BRED DURHAM BULL.

About 5 years old, bought at the sale of the American Institute at New York, is offered for sale, deliverable in this city, or on board of any vessel in the port, at \$212—he is represented as a very superior animal; the gentleman who owns him not having use sufficient for him on his own farm, and the neighborhood not enlightened enough to understand the value of the improved breeds of cattle, and to encourage him in keeping him, offers him at the above low price—his fellow was sold for \$300.

Also—a Bull CALF, by a full bred Durham bull out a first rate common cow; he is 7 months old; price \$20.

Also, a BOAR of the Tuscarora breed (cross of the Berkshire and China,) 12 months old, price \$20. Also 3 pair PIGS, same breed, 6 weeks to 2 months old, at \$15 a pair. Address, post paid, to au 26 S. SANDS, office American Farmer.

AYRSHIRE BULL CALF

For sale, a most beautiful Ayrshire BULL CALF, gotten in Scotland, and calved here last February—he is a most splendid animal, and will be sold deliverable in this city for \$150. Such an opportunity for an animal of the kind seldom offers.

ALSO

A beautiful full bred BOAR PIG, of the genuine BERKSHIRE BREED, from a boar and sow selected in person by a gentleman of this city well known for his superior taste in the selection of fine animals, from Mr. Bement's stock, near Albany—price \$12 1/2, two months old,—now in the city. Apply to ag 26 SAML SANDS, American Farmer office.

BEAUTIFUL CALVES FOR SALE—VERY CHEAP.

I am authorized to sell a very beautiful BULL CALF, out of a full bred Durham cow of one of the finest stocks in the country, got by a thorough bred imported Ayrshire bull—the calf is very finely formed and marked, white and red, and is about 6 weeks old; price \$30. Also, a HALF BRED HULL CALF, by the same Ayrshire bull, out of an excellent country cow; he is beautifully spotted, red and white, price \$17. The dam would also be sold.

aug 26 S. SANDS.

BAKEWELL RAM WANTED,

For which a liberal price will be paid. Also, a couple of pair of Poland Fowls, and a good Setter Dog. Persons having either of the above for sale, will state the price of the same deliverable in this city. Apply to S. SANDS.

The subscriber has several enquiries for superior breeds of SHEEP—those having them for sale would be likely to dispose of them by stating the price, &c. deliverable in this city au 26

BLOODED STOCK FOR SALE.

No. 1. A 3-4 blooded Mare; she is a dark sorrel, about 16 hands high, 9 years old, and in foal by a thorough bred race horse.

No. 2. A bright sorrel Filly, 2 years old, out of No. 1, and got by the splendid thorough bred race horse, "The Captain." See The Captain's pedigree, &c.

No. 3. A bright sorrel Filly, 1 one year old, and full sister to No. 2, also an exact match.

No. 4. A bay Colt out of No. 1, and got by Young Sir James; he by Sir James, &c. &c. Any person wishing to purchase the above can know pedigree by applying to GEORGE T. MASON, Georgetown, D. C.

Also, a splendid Bay Horse, 7 years old, upwards of 16 hands high, and runs well, sound and well broken to single harness—the above can be bought at moderate prices, if immediate application be made as above. aug 20 31

A JENNY FOR SALE.

She has been used as a riding animal for the ladies of the family of the present owner, who has no farther use for her; she is well spoken of, and will be sold at the low price of \$30. Apply to aug 20 SAML SANDS, American Farmer office.

DEVON BULL FOR SALE.

He is full bred, between 2 and 3 years old, of good size and form, deep rich color, and in fine order. Price \$75, deliverable in this city, or put on board a vessel if required. Apply to S. SANDS, aug 25 at Farmer office.

CABBAGE SEEDS.

JUST RECEIVED, from the Grower near London, our regular supply of first rate CABBAGE SEEDS, viz: Early York, Large York, Bullock Heart, Early Birmingham, and general assortment of early and late Cabbage Seed, raised by the same gentleman that hath supplied us these 25 years to the full satisfaction of our customers generally. As we receive these Seed direct from the grower, there never has been nor can be any mistake in kind, or description in quality. They have arrived in fine order, and are warranted first quality in all respects—the time to sow them is from the 8th to the 15th of September. The early Birmingham is a new kind—should be sown 1st September—will not run to flower, in the Spring though early sowing, and will make fine hard white heads two or three weeks before any other kind. The attention of Gardeners is invited to this kind of Cabbage.

SAMUEL AULT & SON, Corner of Calvert and Water sts. Orders from any part of the U. S. remitting the cash, will be promptly attended to. au 26 31.

BERKSHIRE PIGS.

The Subscriber will receive orders for his full litters of pure Berkshire Pigs, bred from the stock of Col. Bement and Mr. Lossing, of Albany, N. Y., and importations from England. He will also have a few Tuscaroras, bred from pure Berkshire and China stock. They will be ready for delivery from 1st to 15th Oct. Address ag 12 JNO. P. E. STANLEY, Baltimore, Md.

BERKSHIRE PIGS.—The subscriber is authorized to receive orders for full bred Berkshire Pigs, deliverable in this city in a few weeks, at reasonable prices. Also Tuscaroras. S. SANDS, Am. Farmer office. jy 8

WANTED, A SITUATION AS SUPERINTENDENT

Of a farm, by a single man who is highly recommended for his practical, as well as theoretical knowledge of agriculture and horticulture. Any gentleman having an extensive estate, wanting such a person, will probably find in the advertiser one peculiarly qualified for such duties, if immediate application is made to S. Sands, American Farmer office. ag 4

HUSSEY'S CORN SHELLER AND HUSKER.

The subscriber respectfully informs the public that he is now engaged in manufacturing these celebrated machines; they are now so well known that it is not deemed necessary here to enlarge on their merits further than to say, that the ordinary work is 40 bushels of shelled corn per hour, from corn in the husk, and one hundred bushels per hour when it is previously husked. Abundant testimony to the truth of this can be given if required, as well as of the perfect manner in which the work is done. His machine could be made to do double this amount of work, but it would be necessarily expensive and unwieldy, besides, experience has often shown that a machine of any kind may be rendered comparatively valueless by any attempt to make it do too much, this therefore, is not intended to put the corn in the sack, but to be exactly what the farmer requires at the low price of \$5 dollars.

The subscriber also informs the public, that he continues to manufacture Ploughs of every variety, and more particularly his patent self sharpening plough, which is in many places taking the place of ploughs of every other kind. He also manufactures Martineau's Iron Horse Power, which for beauty, compactness and durability, has never been surpassed. The subscriber being the proprietor of the patent right for Maryland, Delaware, and the Eastern Shore of Virginia, these horse powers cannot be legally sold by any other person within the said district.

Thrashing Machines, Wheat Fans, Cultivators, Harrows and the common hand Corn Sheller constantly on hand, and for sale at the lowest prices.

Agricultural Implements of any peculiar model made to order at the shortest notice.

Castings for all kinds of ploughs, constantly on hand by the pound or ton. A liberal discount will be made to country merchants who purchase to sell again.

Mr Hussey manufactures his reaping machines at this establishment.

R. B. CHENOWETH, corner of Front & Ploughman sts. near Baltimore st. Bridge, a No. 30, Pratt street. Baltimore, Jan. 22, 1840. 1 v

DURHAM CALVES.

Farmers, and others, wishing to procure the above valuable breed of cattle, at MODERATE prices, can be supplied at all seasons of the year, with calves of mixed blood, from dams that are good milkers, by applying any day, Sundays excepted, at

Chesnut Hill Farm,

three miles from the city, on the York Turnpike Road, and near the first toll-gate.

PETER BLATCHLEY, Manager.

For sale, as above, a pair of sound, well broke and handsome CARRIAGE HORSES, and a pair of first rate WORK HORSES.

Orders for the above addressed to SAML SANDS, publisher of the "Farmer," will be promptly attended to.

April 29, 1840—1 y.

JOHN T. DURDING & CO.

Offer to the public generally, a large stock of ploughs, embracing all the most approved kinds—Self-sharpeners, Wiley, Beach, New-York, Hillside, &c. Cultivators, Corn Shellers, Straw Cutters, Page's Corn and Seed Dropper, Wheat Fan and Grain Cradle, with a general assortment of useful articles. Castings for ploughs and machinery of all descriptions furnished to order by the pound or ton. Repairs done with neatness and despatch. Those wishing to purchase would do well to call and examine for themselves. Prices on all articles made on the most pleasing terms.

Grant and Ellicott-streets, rear of Dinmore and Kyle's. fe 26

TURNIP SEED FOR 1840.

R. SINCLAIR, Jr. and Co. have just received from their Seed Garden, 1200 lbs. WHITE FLAT and RED TOP TURNIP SEED, raised from selected roots of the finest quality, directions for sowing, management, &c. furnished with each package.

In Store. RUTA BAGA, DALE'S Hybrid, White Dutch, Tankard, yellow Aberdeen and French, white Globe and Norfolk Turnip Seeds. Also for Summer and Early Fall Sowing, Dwarf Beans, and Cucumber for pickling, Early Cabbage, Kale, Cauliflower, Corn Salad, Endive, Lettuce, Radish, Spinach, etc. etc. jy 15 4t

LIME—LIME.

The subscribers are prepared to furnish any quantity of Oyster Shell or Stone Lime of a very superior quality at short notice at their Kilns at Spring Garden, near the foot of Eutaw street, Baltimore, and upon as good terms as can be had at any other establishment in the State.

They invite the attention of farmers and those interested in the use of the article, and would be pleased to communicate any information either verbally or by letter. The Kilns being situated immediately upon the water, vessels can be loaded very expeditiously. N.B. Wood received in payment at market price. ap 22 3m E. J. COOPER & Co.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

The subscriber having given his attention to the improvement of farming implements for the last year, flatters himself that he has been successful in improving the following articles:—

A machine for planting cotton, corn, beets, ruta-baga, carrots, turnips, onions, and all kinds of garden seeds. He is so well satisfied with the operation of this machine, and the flattering prospects of a large sale, that he has made arrangements to have 30 machines built per week. The testimonials of gentlemen that have examined and witnessed the operation, will clearly show to the farmer that it is no humbug. The price of this machine will be \$25. The money will be refunded to the purchaser if the machine does not give satisfaction.

A machine for husking, shelling, separating, winnowing and putting in the bag, corn, or any kind of grain. It will husk, shell, clean, and put in the bag, 600 bushels of corn per day, or 2000 bushels after the husk is taken off. The same machine will, by shifting cylinders, thresh 200 bushels of wheat, and put it in the bag perfectly clean. This machine will cost about \$210. It occupies less room than the common threshing machine, and requires about two third the speed—and not more than 4 horses to drive it.

The husking and shelling part of this machine is the same as Mr. (Jed) Hussey's, except that the cylinder is one solid piece of cast iron, instead of several pieces bolted and hooped together. The other points are a new arrangement, for which the subscriber is about to take a patent. Certificates that the machine will perform what is above stated, can be produced from gentlemen that have seen the machine in operation at the south.

The attention of the public is again called to the Ditching Machine, which has been now in successful operation more than one year, and that more than 20 miles of ditch has been cut with one machine the last season, by one man and one horse.

A horse power made more on the original plan of the stationary power, which is admitted by farmers and mechanics to be the best, as there is less friction, and of course more power. The only difference is that the machine is made so as to be portable, by being easily taken apart, and carried from place to place; by taking out a few bolts, it is moved easier than the common machine: the first driving wheel is 10 feet in diameter, working in to the pinion 14 inches in diameter; on the same shaft of this pinion is a bevel wheel 2 1/2 feet in diameter, working in pinion 8 in. in diameter; on this shaft is a cone of pulleys of different sizes, so as to give different speeds required. We can have 1200 revolutions per minute of a 5 inch pulley, or reduce the speed to 19 turns per minute. It is of sufficient strength for 6 or 8 horses. The casting of this machine will weigh about 850 pounds; the price will be \$130—one for 2 or 4 horses will cost about 75 to \$100, built on the same plan.

A machine for morticing posts and sharpening rails for fence, and also for sawing wood in the woods, and planing any kind of scantling or boards, can be seen at my shop in Lexington, near Liberty-street, over Mr. Joseph Thomas' Turning shop—This machine will be made to order, and will cost \$150.

A machine for boring holes in the ground for posts, improved lately, and warranted to be a good article—Price \$5.

Also machines for mechanics, morticing and planing machines; Tinning do; Gear Drill Stocks,atchet Drills, Screw Setters, Turning Lathes and Circular Saw Arrows, and benches for tenoning the same, of various kind,—and for various uses; Cutting and cleaning chisels for morticing machines.

The subscriber tenders his thanks to the farmers and mechanics of Baltimore and its vicinity, for the liberal support he has received, and hopes by strict attention to his business, to receive from the liberal and enterprising mechanics and farmers, (whose motto is to keep up with the times,) an equal share of their patronage.

Inquire of Edwards & Cobb, No. 7, N. Charles street, Baltimore, or of the subscriber, over Mr. Joseph Thomas' Turning-shop, No. 29, Lexington, near Liberty-street. GEORGE PAGE.

SEED WHEAT.

250 bushels GOLDEN ROCK WHEAT
400 bushels GARDEN WHEAT
150 bushels MOUNTAIN WHITE do.

FOR SALE,

800 bushels SEED WHEAT of very superior quality, of the above denomination. The Rye and Buckle has been carefully taken out and entirely clear of Garlic. Any part of this wheat will be delivered at Berlin or Knoxville depot on the Baltimore and Ohio rail road. The Rock Wheat at \$1 75—the Garden and White Wheat at \$1 25. Applicants must send their bags, with their names thereon.

Apply to WM. R. STUART, esq. Baltimore, or to the subscriber, by mail, directed to Peter-ville, Frederick county, Md.

JAS. L. HAWKINS.

N. B.—This wheat will be ready for delivery on the 25th August. jy 29 9t